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SEC. 8. Unless within 48 hours after the service of notice to vacate as above provided, the owner, or his agent, or the lessee, or the occupant of said building, structure, or part thereof, shall notify the board of health in writing that he will make or cause to be made such alterations or repairs as in the judgment of the board of health shall be necessary for the purpose of making said building, structure, or part thereof sanitary, the board of health shall proceed to abate the same. If said notice be given as aforesaid the board of health shall grant a reasonable time to make said alterations and repairs. If said alterations and repairs are not made and completed within said time allowed by said board, the board of health shall by formal resolution order, and in accordance with said order cause, the abatement of said nuisance and the destruction of said building, structure, or part thereof, herein provided, found, and determined to be a nuisance.

SEC. 9. The structure, building, or part thereof vacated hereunder shall not be reoccupied without the written permission of the board of health, but such permission must be granted when within the time allowed as hereinbefore specified the alterations and repairs required to be made by the board of health shall have been made.

SEC. 10. Upon the written application therefor of the board of health the board of supervisors shall allow and order paid out of such fund as the board of supervisors may lawfully specify any sums the expenditure of which may be necessary for the enforcement of this ordinance, and the auditor shall audit and the treasurer shall pay such sums so allowed and ordered paid, and the amount so expended shall become a lien upon the property upon which said nuisance was abated in accordance with the provisions of this ordinance; and said amount may be recovered by an action against said property or the owner thereof.

SEC. 11. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

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## SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO QUARANTINE OFFICERS REGARDING TREATMENT OF VESSELS ARRIVING FROM CERTAIN PORTS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
BUREAU OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND  
MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,  
Washington, August 9, 1912.

*Medical officers in command, and acting assistant surgeons in charge, national quarantine stations.*

SIR: This letter of instructions is intended to replace bureau letter of July 15, 1912,<sup>1</sup> and its contained instructions are to be carried out in conjunction with the directions contained in department circular No. 37<sup>2</sup> of July 10, the provisions of which are to be made operative in the case of all of the ports hereinafter referred to.

Vessels from the following-named ports are to be fumigated throughout for the destruction of rats upon their arrival at United States ports, and the masters of said vessels are to be directed in writing by you to have all lines or hawsers leading to shore protected

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<sup>1</sup> See Public Health Reports of July 19, 1912, p. 1129.

<sup>2</sup> See Public Health Reports of July 26, 1912, pp. 1173 and 1174.

by rat guards, when such vessels are lying at United States ports, all gang planks to be raised at night unless men be placed nearby to destroy escaping rats.

**List of ports from which vessels must be treated as outlined above.**

1. Liverpool, England, and other English ports in which plague appears subsequent to the issuance of this order.
2. All ports in South America (including the river ports thereof).
3. All ports in the West Indies.
4. All ports in Africa (including the Azores, Canary Islands, Cape Verde Islands, and Madeira).
5. All ports in Asia (including those of the Straits Settlements, Japan, the Philippine Islands, and the Malay Archipelago).
6. All ports of Australia.

In the event any vessel from any port included in the above list arrives with a certificate from an accredited officer of the service, showing that the vessel has been fumigated for the destruction of rats at the foreign port of departure just prior to the sailing of the vessel, the quarantine officer may waive fumigation in his discretion if, as a result of a careful examination to this end, he is convinced that the fumigation has been effective.

Vessels carrying perishable cargoes, unless contraindicated by their general sanitary status, may be given provisional pratique and allowed to proceed to the wharf, there to remove said perishable cargo, prior to the process of fumigation, the vessel, however, to be protected during the removal of such perishable cargo by being breasted off from the wharf and by the use of rat guards and other precautions, such as the raising of gangplanks to prevent the escape of rats from the vessel.

Medical officers are directed, where practicable, to make regular inspections to determine whether the masters of vessels are properly carrying out the rat-funnel and other precautions to prevent the escape of rats from vessels. An effective compliance with these precautions should be enforced.

Certain cases are likely to arise in which vessels will arrive with cargoes such as iron ore, coal, or nitrates from isolated ports where, perhaps, the vessel has taken her cargo in midstream. Such ports, although geographically considered as falling within the scope of this order, may not be individually considered dangerous from the standpoint of furnishing plague-infected rats. On this account, upon the receipt of this letter, you will consult the statistics of the ports from which the vessels have departed before arriving at your station and make recommendations as to any ports which might, in your opinion, be considered exceptions to this general order.

You are directed to acknowledge this letter immediately upon its receipt.

Respectfully,

RUPERT BLUE,  
*Surgeon General.*